

CHARGE NUMBER: 1005
PROJECT TITLE: Primary Process Development
PROJECT LEADER: E. G. Craze
DATE OF REPORT: December 6, 1985

TITLE: HAMBRO DRYER (T. Skidmore)

OBJECTIVE: Evaluate the Hambro vibrating fluidized bed dryer for use in drying tobacco materials during primary processing.

STATUS: Tests to compare the performance of the Hambro with that of the Semiworks Adt dryer have been completed. Preliminary results showed no major differences in the size and CV of the dried filler. OV variation (one sigma) of the material exiting the Hambro was greater than that exiting the Adt (0.76 vs. 0.35) but was about the same at the silo exit (0.24 vs. 0.28). Five hundred pounds of cased bright strip was also dried (from 22.8% to 12.0% OV) in the Hambro without major problems.

PLANS: Evaluate the Hambro for use in drying small (100-200 lbs.) blends of cut filler in the Semiworks and continue testing to evaluate the Hambro with strip and stem materials.

TITLE: SMALL SCALE PROCESSING (T. Skidmore)

OBJECTIVE: Develop a small scale process that will provide cigarette characteristics that are fully comparable to those of the full scale process.

STATUS: Analysis of the three most promising process variations for the small scale operation is almost complete. The smoking panel reported subjective differences between the small scale processes and the large scale control process. Additional tests are planned to determine the significance of the subjective differences.

PLANS: Complete the evaluation of the different processes and define the small scale primary processing operation.

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TITLE: MAKE/PACK OPERATIONS (D. Albertson)

OBJECTIVE: Improve the performance and efficiency of the Semiworks Make/Pack operation.

STATUS: New 100-cigarette weight measurement procedures to verify target weights and an abbreviated QA inspection of trays and boxes have been initiated to assure production quality prior to release. A technician will be added to the group to handle the QA requirements in the Make/Pack area and to coordinate the results of QA audits on POL and HTI tests.

PLANS Cigarette processing guidelines will be established for the Make/Pack operation. The guidelines will define the information needed before a request can be processed and the expected results. Emphasis will be placed on educating requesters on the performance and limitations of the Semiworks Make/Pack operation.



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